

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method for promoting efficiency of gene transfer into plant cells or plant tissue by a bacterium belonging to genus *Agrobacterium*, comprising the steps of:

heating and centrifuging said plant cells or plant tissue; and

contacting said plant cells or plant tissue with the bacterium so that the gene is transferred into the plant;

wherein contact between the plant cells or plant tissue and the bacterium occurs after or while heating and/or centrifuging the plant cells or plant tissue.

2. **(Canceled)**

3. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 1, ~~or 2~~, wherein the heat treatment is carried out at a temperature of 33°C to 60°C.

4. **(Original)** The method according to claim 3, wherein the heat treatment is carried out at a temperature of 35°C to 55°C

5. **(Original)** The method according to claim 4, wherein the heat treatment is carried out at a temperature of 37°C to 52°C.

6. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 1, ~~or 2~~, wherein the heat treatment is carried out for 5 seconds to 24 hours.

7. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 1, ~~or 2~~, wherein the heat treatment is carried out at a temperature of 37°C to 52°C for 1 minute to 24 hours.

8. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 1, ~~or 2~~, wherein the centrifugation is carried out under a centrifugal acceleration of 100G to 250,000G.

9. **(Original)** The method according to claim 8, wherein said centrifugation is carried out under a centrifugal acceleration of 500G to 200,000G.

10. **(Original)** The method according to claim 9, wherein said centrifugation is carried out under a centrifugal acceleration of 1000G to 150,000G.

11. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 1, ~~or 2~~, wherein said centrifugation acceleration of 1000G to 150,000G.

12. **(Currently Amended)** A method for preparing a plant characterized by using the method according to claim 1, ~~or 2~~.

13. **(Canceled)**

14. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 1, ~~or 2~~, wherein said plant cells or plant tissue used are(is) originated from an angiosperm.

15. **(Original)** A method for preparing an angiosperm characterized by using the method according to claim 14.

16. **(Canceled)**

17. **(Original)** The method according to claim 14, wherein said plant cells or plant tissue used are(is) originated by a monocotyledon.

18. **(Original)** A method for preparing a monocotyledon characterized by using the method according to claim 17.

19. **(Canceled)**

20. **(Original)** The method according to claim 17, wherein said plant cells or plant tissue used are(is) originated from a plant belonging to family Gramineae.

21. **(Original)** A method for preparing a plant belonging to family Gramineae characterized by using the method according to claim 20.

22. **(Canceled)**

23. **(Original)** The method according to claim 20, wherein said plant cells or plant tissue are(is) of rice or maize.

24. **(Original)** A method for preparing rice or maize characterized by using the method according to claim 23.

25. **(Canceled)**